

Message Text

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43

ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 OPR-02 A-01

H-02 SCA-01 AID-05 VO-03 SR-02 ORM-01 INSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 /097 W

----- 051423

R 230755Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4742

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 2509

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, VS

SUBJECT: FIRST VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARRIVE IN SWEDEN

REF: STOCKHOLM 2208

SUMMARY: A GROUP OF 22 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES (3 FAMILIES) ARRIVED IN STOCKHOLM BY AIR MAY 20. THEY ARE THE FIRST REFUGEES FROM SAIGON TO REACH SWEDEN. THEY WERE PICKED UP IN THE CHINA SEA ON MAY 4 BY THE SWEDISH SHIP MS JAPAN. WHEN SHIP CALLED AT HONG KONG, LOCAL AUTHORITIES REFUSED TO ADMIT THE REFUGEES AND ALL EFFORTS TO PLACE THEM IN OTHER COUNTRIES FAILED. WHETHER THESE REFUGEES WILL BE GRANTED PERMANENT OR INDEFINITE STAY IN SWEDEN WILL BE DECIDED BY SWEDISH IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. ARRIVAL OF REFUGEES IN SWEDEN FROM SOUTH UNCLASSIFIED

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VIETNAM IS AWKWARD FOR THE GOS IN VIEW OF ITS LONG STANDING OPPOSITION TO THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT AND ITS PAST AND PRESENT SUPPORT FOR THE HANOI REGIME. DESPITE CRITICISM FROM LEFT WING ENTHUSIASTS FOR HANOI, GOS IS LIKELY TO

ALLOW REFUGEES TO STAY. EXPULSION WOULD BE IN STARK CONTRAST WITH SWEDISH ACCEPTANCE OF HUNDREDS OF POLITICAL REFUGEES FROM CHILE AND DESERTERS FROM US FORCES. END SUMMARY.

1. REFUGEES. FIRST GROUP OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES TO REACH SWEDEN CONSISTS OF 22 MEMBERS OF 3 FAMILY GROUPS, WITH 3 HEADS OF FAMILY AND 16 CHILDREN. ONE WAS AN AIR FORCE OFFICER. PRESS ATTENTION HAS FOCUSED, HOWEVER, ON 58 YEAR OLD "HIGH RANKING POLICE OFFICER" DIEP TOONG-YEM. SWEDISH-HANOI LOBBY CAN BE EXPECTED TO FOCUS FURTHER ON WHETHER HE WAS "ORDINARY" OR "SECRET" POLICE OFFICER. REFUGEES SPEAK FRENCH BUT NOT ENGLISH, ACCORDING TO PRESS.

2. TRAVEL TO SWEDEN. REFUGEE GROUP WAS RESCUED FROM SMALL CRAFT BY MS JAPAN, OWNED BY BROSTROEM SHIPPING LINE. CAPTAIN WAS UNABLE TO OFF-LOAD THEM IN HONG KONG, WHERE SWEDISH ENTRY VISAS WERE EVENTUALLY ISSUED. GROUP WAS FLOWN TO STOCKHOLM VIA LUFTHANSA AT EXPENSE OF BROSTROEM CONCERN. REFUGEES ARE NOW AT REFUGEE CENTER AT FLEN OPERATED BY SWEDISH LABOR MARKET BOARD (AMS).

3. REACTION. LEFTWING SWEDISH-HANOI LOBBY HAS NOT YET COMMENTED SPECIFICALLY ON THIS REFUGEE GROUP, BUT LEFT-WING SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARLIAMENTARIAN BRIGITTA DAHL HAS VOICED PARTY LINE FOR FLN SUPPORTERS: "SIMPLE HUMANITARIANISM" REQUIRES REJECTING SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, WHO WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY ADAPTING TO SWEDISH SOCIETY. IF REFUGEES WERE GUILTY OF CRIMES, BRIBERY OR CORRUPTION IN SOUTH VIETNAM, THEY DON'T DESERVE ASYLUM, AND IF THEY WERE NOT GUILTY, THEY HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM RETURNING TO VIETNAM.

4. CANADA. FIVE OTHERS FROM SAME REFUGEE GROUP WERE GIVEN REFUGE IN CANADA.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STOCKH02509
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750183-0689
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197505100/baaaadgw.tel
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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